

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: Dec. 22, 2005

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 204 NEW JOBS IN WAYNE COUNTY ***JDIG Helps Andrew Corporation Expand and Retain NC Workforce***

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Andrew Corporation, a global designer, manufacturer and supplier of communications equipment and services, will move into a new facility in Wayne County in 2006 adding 204 new jobs and retaining and relocating 232 existing jobs from the company's Smithfield facility. The project represents an investment by Andrew of \$11.5 million over six years.

"Andrew Corporation's decision to remain in North Carolina will enhance our already strong presence in the information technology sector and provide more than 200 new jobs for the state," Easley said. "North Carolina is a major center for telecommunications, networking and software development with 2,300 IT companies employing more than 200,000 highly skilled workers."

Andrew Corporation (NASDAQ: ANDW) is an Illinois-based, S&P 500 company that employs more than 11,000 workers in 35 countries. Its sales for fiscal 2005 totaled \$1.96 billion. In 2003, Andrew bought selected assets of Channel Master LLC, out of bankruptcy, including Channel Master's Johnston County plant that was making a variety of satellite communications related products. The Smithfield building is under the control of a bankruptcy judge and is scheduled to close next year.

Andrew, whose satellite communications group manufactures satellite antenna systems and electronics for home, commercial and military markets, considered moving the Smithfield jobs to South Carolina, Mexico or Illinois before deciding to locate in the Wayne County Industrial and Business Park near Goldsboro. Pending completion of all necessary local agreements, construction of the new 125,000 square foot facility is expected to begin in January, with a phased relocation from Andrew's 750,000 square foot Smithfield facility beginning later in 2006.

"Andrew is pleased that the support of the state and various local officials has enabled us to keep our satellite communications manufacturing operations here in North Carolina," said Jude Panetta, group president, Satellite Communications, Andrew Corporation. "We look forward to the exciting opportunities this new location will provide for our employees and our overall ability to support customers from a state-of-the-art, highly efficient manufacturing facility."

"Our skilled workforce and this great company make a winning combination here in Wayne County," said Sen. John Kerr (D-Wayne). "Andrew's position in military and commercial applications is a great fit for eastern North Carolina."

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